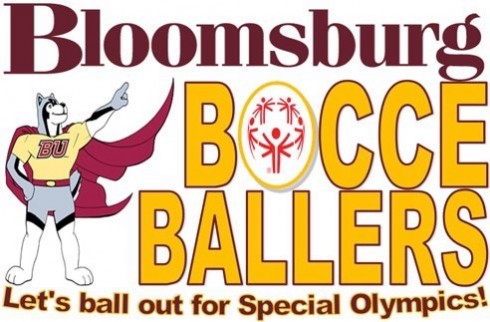


Disney Quotes for the Past, Present and Future This picture is of me and my Uncle on my Communion

**Past**

When I was little I went to a private, Catholic school, a few towns over from my house. In second grade, the big event that everyone looked forward to was the First Holy Communion Ceremony. My second grade teacher was Ms. Chiesa. I idolized her. She was the one who taught us everything we needed to know about receiving our Communion. Our school was affiliated with two churches. My family went to St. Mary's while almost everyone in my school went the St. Joseph's church. Because almost everyone went to St. Joe's for their Communion, I did not expect anyone but my family members to come. However, someone else was there and it made me smile from ear to ear. I turned around and amongst all the people I saw my favorite teacher, Ms. Chiesa. She came up to me and she gave me the biggest hug and said that she was very proud of me. She had a pretty box and in that box was a snow globe with the saying “You're as Sweet as Pie.” She said that she couldn't wait to see where I went in life. She said that she saw how much I was preparing for my Communion and was so pleased with what I did.

In that moment of her telling me that she was proud of me, I decided that I wanted to be a teacher. She was the kindest and nicest person to me and truly showed me that she cared. I knew how it felt to be treated nicely and planned as an 8 year old that I was going to do that for others. It became my dream! And as Jennifer from Oliver and Company said “Keep your dream alive. Dreaming is still how the strong survive”. And here I am today planning to become an Early Education/ Special Education teacher and am keeping that dream alive.

**Present**

At the beginning college, I heard that there was something called Bocce Bash at one of my Living and Learning Community meetings. After the meeting, I asked my mentor what that was. She told me that it was an event that is run at the college where special needs people from all over Pennsylvania come and play Bocce. As a Special Education dual major, I feel that this would be great exposure to people with special needs. While I was there I was struck with inspiration by a trainer talking to one of their player. The coach was encouraging their player to keep going. The player had not win their match and was very upset. The trainer said that they did the best they could and that they were proud of them for getting the ball down the lane. The trainer encouraged their player to keep going and not to be upset that they did not win the game. The trainer also said that it didn't matter that they lost because they were having fun! This event will forever be stuck in my mind because of how encouraging the trainer was to their player. This event reassures me why I want to become a Special Education teacher. I want to be able to encourage my students to keep going even when they lose faith. I want to be able to tell them that they need to do as Rex from *Toy Story 2* said to Buzz “You just got to believe in yourself”.

**Future**

In my future, I plan on being a teacher that encourages my students in the best way that I can. I want to be a teacher like Ms. Chiesa. I can't wait to see the accomplished look on one of my students faces when they know that I am proud of them for trying their best. I also want my students to know that they are never alone. I want them to come to me if they need something. I want my students to know I am there for them to help them succeed. They will know I will not judge them. I'm looking forward to making sure that the students I teach are proud of doing their best. Encouragement creates success and that is what I plan to do to help my students achieve great things. I plan on having my students learn from the wise words of Christopher Robbins from *Winnie the Pooh*: “... You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think.”

